## IN THE CLAIMS

Cancel claim 1 and substitute claims 24-44 as follows:

A decoder for decoding an encoded digital signal, wherein the encoded digital signal represents a wideband digital signal having a sampling frequency  $F_s$ , and the encoded digital signal comprises consecutive frames, each frame comprising a plurality of information packets, each information packet comprising N bits, N being larger than 1, a frame comprising at least a first frame portion including synchronization information; and wherein the decoder comprises:

an input for receiving the encoded digital signal,

means for converting the encoded digital signal into a
replica of the wideband digital signal, and

an output for supplying the replica of the wideband digital signal,

characterized in that said converter is arranged for converting a signal having a number of information packets in one frame determined according to the formula

# ±390

where BR is the bitrate of the encoded digital signal and  $n_{\rm s}$  is the number of samples of the wideband digital signal whose corresponding information in the encoded digital signal is included in one frame of the encoded digital signal, and

 $\qquad \qquad \text{if $P$ is an integer, the number of information packets} \\ \text{in one frame is $P$, and} \\$ 

26. packets in a number v of the frames is P', where P' is the 27 highest integer whose value is less than P; and the number of 28 information packets in a number w of the other frames is equal to P'+1, the numbers v and w being selected such that the 29 30 average frame rate of the encoded digital signal is 31 substantially equal to  $F_s/n_s$ . 25. A decoder as claimed in claim 24, characterized in that the first frame portion comprises further information relating to the number of information packets in the frame, and the decoder comprises retrieval means to retrieve said further information from the first frame portion in said frame upon reception of the encoded digital signal.  $^{2}$  A decoder as claimed in claim  $^{24}$ , characterized in that  $_{s}$ = 48 kHz. 2  $\frac{1}{27}$ . A decoder as claimed in claim  $\frac{24}{3}$ , characterized in that N = 1 2  $\frac{5}{28}$ . A decoder as claimed in claim  $\frac{1}{24}$ , characterized in that  $n_s$ 1 2 = 384.

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30. A decoder as claimed in claim 24, characterized in that the first frame portion further includes system information, and the decoder comprises retrieval means for retrieving said

 $\varphi$ 29. A decoder as claimed in claim 24, characterized in that BR
= 384.

if P is not an integer, the number of information



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system information from the first frame portion in said frame upon reception of the encoded digital signal.

31. A decoder as claimed in claim 30, characterized in that the system information relates to the bitrate BR.

. A decoder as claimed in claim 30, characterized in that the system information relates to the sampling frequency  $F_s$ .

A decoder as claimed in claim 20, characterized in that the system information identifies a frame as having one information packet more than other packets.

34. A decoder as claimed in claim 30, characterized in that

the system information identifies a transmission mode for the digital signal, the system information identifying an encoded digital signal comprising information relating to a stereo audio signal, an encoded digital signal comprising information relating to a mono audio signal, a bilingual signal, or an intensity stereo encoded audio signal, and

the decoder comprises retrieval means for retrieving the mode identification.

35. A decoder as claimed in claim 30, characterized in that a frame comprises said first frame portion, a second frame portion and a third frame portion,

the encoded digital signal further comprises allocation information and samples of a plurality of quantized subsignals, the allocation information indicating for said plurality of quantized subsignals the number of bits

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representing the samples of said quantized subsignals, the allocation information being included in said second frame portion and said samples being included in said third frame portion of a frame, and

the decoder further comprises second retrieval means for retrieving the allocation information from said second frame portion, and third retrieval means for retrieving said samples from said third frame portion.

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36. A decoder as claimed in claim 35, characterized in that the encoder further comprises synthesis filter means for reconstructing a replica of the wide-band digital signal in response to the quantized subsignals received, the synthesis filter circuit combining the subsignals and applying multiplication to form the signal band of the wide band signal.

A decoder as claimed in claim 35, characterized in that the encoded digital signal further comprises scale factor information relating to scale factors, a scale factor being associated with at least one of the quantized subsignals contained in the third frame portion, and the third frame portion further including said scale factor information, and

the decoder further comprises third retrieval means for retrieving the scale factor information from said third frame portion and storage means for storing said scale factor information.

38. A decoder as claimed in claim 37; characterized in that the third retrieval means are means for retrieving 6-bit words from the scale factor information, each 6-bit word representing a

scale factor for a quantized subsignal.

A decoder as claimed in claim 35, characterized in that the second retrieval means are means for retrieving 4-bit words as the allocation information from said second frame portion, each four bit word representing the number of bits with which the samples of a quantized subsignal is represented.

A decoder as claimed in claim 39, characterized in that upon detection of a 4-bit word '0000' for a specific subsignal by the second retrieval means, the third retrieval means are inhibited to retrieve samples from the third frame portion for said specific subsignal.

A1. A decoder as claimed in claim 29, characterized in that upon detection of a 4-bit word '0000' for a specific subsignal by the second retrieval means, the third retrieval means are inhibited to retrieve a scale factor from the third frame portion for said specific subsignal.

A receiver for receiving an encoded digital signal and for converting the encoded digital signal into a wideband digital signal, comprising a decoder for decoding the encoded digital signal,

wherein the encoded digital signal represents a wideband digital signal having a sampling frequency  $F_s$ , and the encoded digital signal comprises consecutive frames, each frame comprising a plurality of information packets, each information packet comprising N bits, N being larger than 1, a frame comprising at least a first frame portion including syn-

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chronization information,

and wherein the decoder comprises:

13 an input for receiving the encoded digital signal,

> means for converting the encoded digital signal into a replica of the wideband digital signal, and

an output for supplying the replica of the wideband digital signal,

characterized in that said converter is arranged for converting a signal having a number of information packets in one frame determined according to the formula

where BR is the bitrate of the encoded digital signal and  $n_s$  is the number of samples of the wideband digital signal whose corresponding information in the encoded digital signal is included in one frame of the encoded digital signal, and

if P is an integer, the number of information packets in one frame is P, and

if P is not an integer, the number of information packets in a number v of the frames is P', where P' is the highest integer whose value is less than P; and the number of information packets in a number w of the other frames is equal to P'+1, the numbers v and w being selected such that the average frame rate of the encoded digital signal is substantially equal to  $F_s/n_s$ .

43. A receiver as claimed in claim 42, characterized in that the receiver further comprises converter means for converting

the transmission signal into the encoded digital signal; the converter means having an output coupled to the input of the decoder.

A receiver as claimed in claim 43, characterized in that the receiver is arranged for reproducing the encoded digital signal signal from a record carrier, and the receiver comprises a reproducing unit, the reproducing unit having an output which is coupled to an input of the converter means.